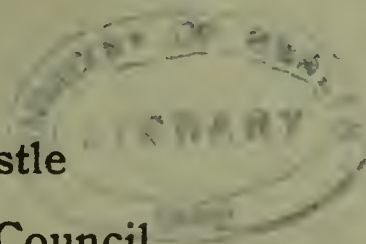


LIBRARY

Barnard Castle  
Rural District Council



---

# Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1947



Barnard Castle  
Rural District Council

---

# Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer  
of Health

For the Year 1947



## Barnard Castle Rural District Council.

---

Health Department,

45, Galgate,

Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1947.

During the year under review work has proceeded in connection with preliminary surveys for the Upper Teesdale water scheme, and plans have been discussed with the Council's consulting engineers regarding proposed increases in the Cockfield and Woodland supplies.

Good progress has been made in the housing programme, and 102 houses have now been completed or are in process of completion. I venture to suggest that the new housing estate at Staindrop, built by direct labour, will compare favourably with any similar schemes in the county districts.

The survey made during the year indicates that overcrowding is not a serious problem in the district. Taking the district as a whole, the number of overcrowded houses does not appear to be more than three per cent. Old and damp houses, with few or no sanitary amenities, are, however, plentiful, and these will have to be replaced as soon as circumstances permit.

The Birth-Rate continues to increase and there is a slight increase in the Death-Rate. There was also an increase in the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified. The Infant Death-Rate has, however, declined this year. With the exception of a few cases of Infantile Paralysis which occurred during the period of the national epidemic, there was little change in the incidence of infectious diseases. It is very satisfactory to note, however, that no actual cases of Diphtheria occurred in the district during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. G. PALEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.**

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN G. PALEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Academic Lond.).

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

JOHN GEORGE MIDDLETON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

J. LAWRENCE KELL, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Public Health Department:

MISS ROSEMARY WAUGH.

Mr. Harry Wilkinson was appointed by the Council for temporary duties in connection with an overcrowding survey.

---

## **General Statistics and Social Conditions.**

Area (acres)—110,118.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-year  
1947—16,580.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£265.

The chief industries are agriculture, coal mining and stone quarrying.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year.

		Total	Male	Female
LIVE-BIRTHS.	Legitimate )	348	( 174	159
	Illegitimate )		( 11	4

LIVE-BIRTH RATE—20.9 per 1,000 of the population.

Corresponding rate for England and Wales, 20.5, and for 148 smaller towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census), 22.2.

			Total	Male	Female
STILL-BIRTHS.	Legitimate )	12	( Legit.	11	4
	Illegitimate )		( Illegit.	1	1
				0	0

Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.72.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales, 0.50, and for 148 smaller towns, 0.54.

	Total	Male	Female
DEATHS.	235	133	102

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population—14.2.

For England and Wales—12.0.

For 148 Smaller Towns—11.9.

### DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

				Male.	Female
Total	...	...	...	9	8
Legitimate	...	...	...	9	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—

### DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	48
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	41
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	...	...	36
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	51
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	1
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	2.9
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	5.8

Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	0	0	0
Cerebrospinal Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	0	1
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	3	12
Cancer (all types) ... ..	15	11	24
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	1	0	1
Influenza ... ..	1	0	1
Measles ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Infective Encephalitis ...	0	0	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer (all types) ... ..	13	11	24
Diabetes ... ..	2	2	4
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	16	17	33
Heart Diseases ... ..	31	36	67
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	2	4
Bronchitis ... ..	5	1	6
Pneumonia ... ..	3	3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	3	1	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	3	0	3
Diarrhoea under 2 years ... ..	0	1	1
Appendicitis ... ..	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	0	2
Nephritis ... ..	6	4	10
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	0	0	0
Premature Birth ... ..	4	0	4
Suicide ... ..	1	0	1
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	4	3	7
Other Violent Causes ... ..	3	1	4
All other causes ... ..	21	16	37
	<hr/> 133	<hr/> 102	<hr/> 235

## General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

A Central Public Health Laboratory, controlled by a joint committee, representing the County Council of Durham, the City of Newcastle, and the County Boroughs of Gateshead and Tynemouth, has been provided to assist practitioners in the diagnosis of diphtheria, enteric fever, tuberculosis, and venereal diseases, etc.

The Laboratory is situated in Government Buildings, Ponteland Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There is one ambulance at Randolph Colliery, Evenwood. This is available to subscribers and their families, but permission is granted by the Company for its use by non-subscribers in urgent cases. An ambulance stationed at Middleton-in-Teesdale, and owned by the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, is available to subscribers, and to non-subscribers at an additional fee. There is also an ambulance for the use of contributors under the Darlington Memorial Hospital Contributory Scheme. Ambulances are available for infectious fever cases. Ambulance facilities in the district are inadequate, particularly in the Stainton, Staindrop, Winston, and Gainford Districts. The modern, well-equipped ambulance belonging to the Barnard Castle Urban District Council, is, however, available on a private basis, for use in any part of the Rural District in urgent cases, and during the past year the services of the ambulance have been used on a number of occasions in the Middleton-in-Teesdale, Staindrop and Gainford areas.

## HOME NURSING.

There are six District Nursing Associations in the area, at Butterknowle, Cockfield, Evenwood and Ramshaw, Gainford, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Staindrop. These are voluntary organisations working in conjunction with and assisted by the County Council. Services provided include Midwifery and Maternity, Medical and Surgical. Several parishes are included in Nursing Associations outside the Council's area:—Egglesstone by the Egglesstone, Romalldkirk and Mickleton D.N.A.; and Stainton, Westwick and Marwood by the Barnard Castle and Startforth D.N.A.

## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Child Welfare Centres administered by the Durham County Council are held at Butterknowle, Cockfield, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Staindrop, and Witton Park. Temporary School Clinics are provided at Evenwood C.E. School and Butterknowle County School. Weekly sessions are held at these clinics and a doctor attends at fortnightly intervals at the Evenwood Clinic.

## HOSPITALS, PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to one of the hospitals controlled by the Auckland, Shildon and Willington Joint Hospital Board. The Marwood Hospital, which is situated in this area, has been closed throughout the year, owing to shortage of nursing staff. There are no other hospitals in the district.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. WATER. Supplies from the Tees Valley Water Board and the Durham County Water Board were satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality. These undertakings supply the greater portions of the Southern and Northern parts of the district. Systematic bacteriological examinations of water supplies under the control of these undertakings are made.

Bacteriological examinations were made of the following water supplies controlled by the Council—viz: Newbiggin, Woodland, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Cockfield, Raby, and Streatlam and Stainton. Unsatisfactory reports were received of samples taken from all these supplies, indicating possible contamination from organic sources.

### WOODLAND.

The source of supply is from three springs situated on high moorland and collected into small covered brick chambers. The brickwork covering these chambers has become loosened and displaced, and the collecting chambers exposed.

### NEWBIGGIN.

Locks were needed on the gates in the fencing round the springs and reservoir since these gates were open and sheep had been inside the impounded area. This matter was attended to during the year.

### MIDDLETON-IN-TEESDALE.

A doorway giving entrance to the impounding chamber of the springs became displaced owing to the severe winter weather, and it was possible for straying sheep or cattle to enter the chamber. This matter was attended to during the year.

Discussions took place with the Council's consulting engineers, Messrs. D. Balfour & Sons, as to general precautions to be taken to safeguard the Council's supplies.

It was recommended that chlorination should be adopted for the Woodland, Cockfield, and Middleton water supplies, and that the existing plant be examined and, if necessary, replaced by more modern or more suitable apparatus. It was also recommended that all springs used for public supply should be properly protected against cattle and trespassers by fencing. These recommendations were adopted by the Council.

## WATER SHORTAGE.

No shortages occurred during the year in any part of the area.

### Particulars of Dwelling-houses supplied from Public Water Mains.

Parish	Present Estimated Population	Total Number of Houses	Number of House supplied from Public Water Mains	
			(a) Direct to House	(b) By stand-pipe
Evenwood ... ..	4000	1135	1084	8
Hamsterley .. ...	300	126	78	1
Lynesack & Softley	2000	574	531	6
South Bedburn ...	270	66	Nil	Nil
Etherley ... ..	1200	357	307	2
Woodland ... ..	420	120	114	3
Cleatlam ... ..	90	28	24	Nil
Gainford ... ..	900	282	204	11
Headlam ... ..	75	25	23	Nil
Langton ... ..	100	22	19	1
Ingleton ... ..	270	96	70	10
Staindrop ... ..	1100	352	290	23
Westwick .. ...	55	21	16	Nil
Whorlton ... ..	210	63	42	Nil
Winston ... ..	400	120	105	1
Morton Thimouth ...	25	6	Nil	Nil
Langleydale & Shotton	150	35	11	Nil
Marwood ... ..	320	89	31	Nil
Raby & Keverstone	220	57	6	13
Bolam ... ..	90	26	Nil	Nil
Hilton ... ..	80	19	Nil	Nil
Streatham & Stainton	210	72	54	Nil
Cockfield ... ..	2000	609	599	9
Eggleston ... ..	380	169	Nil	Nil
Forest & Frith ...	440	118	22	3
Middleton-in-Teesdale	1500	536	446	58
Newbiggin .. ...	270	83	17	30
Wackerfield ... ..	130	28	20	6

NOTE.—In a few cases the figures in column (b) include taps fitted in wash-houses, dairies, and in one case in a cellar.

## 2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new works were undertaken during the year. Approval has been obtained from the Ministry of Health, and tenders invited, for the construction of new works and a pumping station at Staindrop.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Observation has been kept on the river Tees above Middleton in regard to pollution from washings from Forcegarth Whinstone Quarries, and from Cow Green Barytes Mine (Wrentnall Barytes Co.). Considerable silting up of the bed of the river has been caused. A start has been made in the provision of settling tanks at Forcegarth but, up to the present time, little progress has been made.

4. PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

A total of 58 applications for grants for privy conversions were made and approved by the Council during the year. This is a satisfactory increase compared with the previous year (37), but a great deal remains to be done to reduce the large number of unhygienic ash-closets in the district. These ash-closets are potential disease-spreaders, particularly in the summer months when dust and flies are prevalent.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The greater part of the area is covered by direct labour. Scavenging is undertaken by Motor Vehicles (Karrier-Bantam). One small area which is not suitable for motor transport is let by contract. A Ford motor truck is on hire from the Durham County Council.

Number of Wagons—7.

Number of full-time employees:

Foreman	...	...	...	...	1
Fillers	...	...	...	...	7
Drivers	...	...	...	...	6
					<hr/>
					14

Number of Garages—5 (2 owned by the Council,  
3 rented).

Scavenging Areas—6.

Total number of cleansings carried out during the year	158,000
Total number of loads carried	4,049
Estimated mileage run by vehicles	29,381

Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to build a garage to house eight vehicles together with stores and repairs section. A new site has been selected in Cockfield.

There is at present sufficient garage accommodation for only six vehicles, and four are standing out (two new wagons have been delivered since the end of 1947). Repairs are carried out at the Council's present garage at Cockfield, but there is no proper repair section provided.

Construction of a main garage at Cockfield would ensure centralisation of control from an administrative point of view, and there would be adequate facilities for maintenance and repairs.

## 6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Following is a summary of the work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year:—

1. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.					Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector	Number of Formal Notices by Order of Authority	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice
Dwelling-houses and Schools:							
Foul Conditions ... ..					—	—	—
Structural Defects ... ..					60	10	51
Overcrowding ... ..					—	—	—
Lodging-houses ... ..					—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..					—	—	—
Cowsheds ... ..					—	—	—
Bakehouses ... ..					—	—	—
Slaughter-houses ... ..					—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies ... ..					6	2	7
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...					—	—	—
Waterclosets ... ..					—	—	—
Defective Yard Paving ... ..					—	—	—
House Drainage:							
Defective Taps ... ..					—	—	—
No Disconnection from Sewers					—	—	—
Other Faults ... ..					5	1	4
Water Supply ... ..					4	—	2
Pigsties ... ..					—	—	—
Animals Improperly Kept ... ..					—	—	—
Offensive Trades ... ..					—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ... ..					—	—	—
Other Nuisances ... ..					—	—	—
Totals ...					75	13	64



## II. WATER, FOOD AND DRUGS.

	No.
Samples of Water taken for Analysis ... ..	15
„ „ „ condemned as unfit for use ... ..	12
Seizures of Unwholesome Food ... ..	—
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food	—
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis ...	—
„ „ „ found Adulterated ... ..	—

## III. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed ...	31
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ... ..	31
Schools do. do. ...	—
Prosecutions for exposures of infected persons or things	—
Convictions for do. do. do. ...	—

## IV. GENERAL.

Ashpit-privies converted into Ash-closets ... ..	—
Do. do. Water-closets ... ..	2
Ash-closets do. do. ... ..	58
Total number of Water-closets in District ... ..	2100
Do. Ash-closets do. ... ..	3345
Do. Ash-pit privies do. ... ..	21
Do. Pail Closets do. ... ..	100
Do. Chemical Closets do. ... ..	13

### Statement of the number and nature of inspections made during the year by the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Classification.	No. of visits.
<b>A. GENERAL SANITATION.</b>	
Drainage ... ..	131
Water Supply ... ..	62
Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	471
Rats and Mice ... ..	34
Miscellaneous ... ..	183
<b>B. HOUSING.</b>	
UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	
No. of Houses Inspected ... ..	434
Visits to above Houses ... ..	170

## UNDER HOUSING ACTS.

No. of Houses Inspected									
(Overcrowding Survey)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,200
Visits to above Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260

## VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No. of Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

C. INFECTIOUS DISEASES. ... .. 30

## D. MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126

Total ... 7,223

7. DISINFESTATION. Two premises were treated for infestation by "silver fish."

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

About the work carried out in connection with this Act, Mr. Kell writes as follows:—

The Council accepted delegation of authority under the above Act from the County Council in 1946, and in the latter half of that year a rodent operator was appointed, to work jointly between the three authorities, Barnard Castle Urban District Council, Startforth Rural District Council, and Barnard Castle Rural District Council.

The first work of the operator was to survey the refuse tips, and sewage disposal plants in this rural district, after which he commenced treatments where necessary. The methods used were those recommended by the Ministry of Food, Rodent Division, whose training course was attended by the Sanitary Inspectors and by the Rodent Operator.

In October, 1946, the first treatment of sewers commenced, and work progressed into 1947, being much delayed by the bad winter which was then experienced. Good results were obtained, there being an estimated kill of 3,230 rats, and a grant was obtained from the Ministry of Food for this work.

During the year under review various treatment were carried out in private premises. Charges for this service were made on a non-profit basis. Results were good, particularly in food premises such as grocers' shops. Again during the year the Council's refuse tips and sewage disposal works were treated. Infestation of rats are naturally inseparable from such premises, and regular treatments are necessary.

## 8. FACTORIES ACT, 1937. PART 1.:

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	7	2
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	38	9	—
Total ... ..	48	16	2

## CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

SANITARY CONVENIENCES: Insufficient, 1; Un-suitable or Defective, 1; Remedied, 1.

## HOUSING.

Owing to the severe weather in the early part of the year, building work was suspended for a period of ten weeks. Good progress was made later, however, on improvement in the weather conditions.

### Distribution of Houses built and occupied during the year.

Parish.	No. of Houses Allocated.
Etherley ... ..	12
Staindrop ... ..	4
Evenwood ... ..	18

All of these houses were of the three-bedroomed type. The four houses at Staindrop were constructed by direct labour, and in stone obtained from local quarries.

### Statement of Housing Situation at end of 1947.

Parish.	Houses completed & occupied by 31-12-47.	In course of construction
Hamsterley, South Bedburn ...	6	—
Copley ...	8	—
Butterknowle ...	4	—
Etherley ...	12	4
Evenwood and Barony ..	18	10
Cockfield ...	—	14
Staindrop ...	4	12
Ingleton ...	—	8
Gainford ...	—	2
Totals ...	52	50



A total number of applications for houses amounted to 504, of which 62 were in respect of agricultural workers and 105 from coal and lead miners.

### Overcrowding Survey.

An overcrowding survey was carried out and completed during the year. With the exception of a few of the largest houses, all houses in the district were included in the survey.

Estimates of the degree of overcrowding were made according to the provisions laid down in Part IV. of the Housing Act, 1936.

A detailed report of the survey has already been issued to the Council, but a summary is given below of the main details obtained.

Number of houses containing more than one family, but not overcrowded	...	...	...	...	...	161
Total houses overcrowded in Rural District	...	...	...	...	...	166
Total houses overcrowded, containing more than one family	...	...	...	...	...	20

I must point out that under the Housing Act, 1936, it is the duty of the landlord not to permit overcrowding in connection with any new re-letting of houses, and he must insert in the rent-book the number of persons legally permitted to reside in the house. This provision has not in general been carried out in this district in the past, and whilst in the present difficult housing conditions pre-war standards cannot be adhered to, efforts should be made to prevent any gross overcrowding, particularly in premises of a low category.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

**MILK SUPPLY.** At the end of the year there were 106 producers holding designated licences, an increase of 8 compared with the previous year.

T.T. Milk Licence to produce and bottle	...	...	...	6
T.T. Milk Licence to produce only	...	...	...	59
Accredited Milk Licence to produce and bottle	...	...	...	7
Accredited Milk Licence to produce only	...	...	...	34

## Distribution of Milk Producers and Retailers in the District.

Parish.	Producers, Retailers, Totals.		
Bedburn South	... 27	2	29
Bolam	... 8	—	8
Cleatlam	... 7	2	9
Cockfield	... 10	4	14
Eggleston	... 27	—	27
Etherley	... 20	3	23
Evenwood and Barony	... 54	7	61
Forest and Frith	... 36	2	38
Gainford	... 13	1	14
Hamsterley	... 26	—	26
Headlam	... 3	1	4
Hilton	... 10	—	10
Ingleton	... 15	—	15
Langleydale and Shotton	... 17	—	17
Langton	... 4	—	4
Lynesack and Softley	... 70	3	73
Marwood	... 43	2	45
Middleton-in-Teesdale	... 34	2	36
Morton Tinnmouth	... 2	—	2
Newbiggin-in-Teesdale	... 23	—	23
Raby and Keverstone	... 8	1	9
Staindrop	... 16	1	17
Streatlam and Stainton	... 10	1	11
Wackerfield	... 6	—	6
Westwick	... 7	—	7
Whorlton	... 13	—	13
Winston	... 12	—	12
Woodland	... 25	—	25
Totals	... 546	32	578

NOTE.—85 of the above producers also retail milk in addition to the 32 as shown.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD. Milk supplies only. Samples are submitted to the Agricultural Department, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. FOOD. There were no seizures of unwholesome food made, but numerous articles of food were voluntarily surrendered as unfit

ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulation, 1947. There are 4 Retail-Manufacturers and 8 Retailers registered in the district.

MEAT. A Veterinary Surgeon has been appointed under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. A grant is made towards his salary by the Ministry of Health.

SLAUGHTERING.

There is a centralised Slaughter House, situated in Barnard Castle and serving three districts, viz., Barnard Castle Urban and Rural Districts, and Startforth Rural District.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE MEAT INSPECTOR DURING THE YEAR.

Inspected.					Weight Condemned		
Cattle	...	...	...	1223	Beef (lbs.)	...	22873
Calves	...	...	...	258	Veal (lbs.)	...	1543
Sheep	...	...	...	3588	Mutton (lbs.)	...	1252
Pigs	...	...	...	48	Pork (lbs.)	...	345
<hr/>					<hr/>		
5,117					26,013		
<hr/>					<hr/>		
Corned beef (lbs.)	...	...	...	180,588	...	...	414
Offal weight condemned (lbs.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,360

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Annual Return for 12 months, ending 31st December, 1947.	Age at date of Final Injection.		Total Under 15
	0-4 years.	5-14 years.	
Number of Children who completed a full course of immunisation in the Authority's area during the above 12 months	187	80	267
Number given reinforcing injection during year	—	72	—

There was an increase in the number of primary immunisations compared with the previous year; the total increase being 33 children, of whom 28 were under five years. The services rendered by private practitioners in regard to immunisation continued to be of great value.

Two cases were notified as suspected diphtheria during the year, one of which was a child under 15 years. In both cases, however, the diagnosis was not subsequently confirmed, so that in point of fact, no cases of diphtheria occurred in the district throughout the year.

There is now, I consider, little opposition in the district to the idea of immunisation as a preventative against diphtheria. Parents have come to realise the value of the measure in eliminating a dread disease, and they have also found that the inoculations themselves cause no ill-effects on the child other than a slight temporary inconvenience in a few cases.

Parents do, however, like to have definite arrangements made for them rather than seek these for themselves. Thus the family doctor visiting a home who offers to immunise the child immediately, will find little opposition. Similarly, an offer to immunise a child at the school, following a school medical inspection, will produce a ready response in most cases.

## IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation up to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31/12/47 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 19 5	3 1914	4 1943	5 - 9 1 38-1942	10 - 14 1933-1937	Total under 15
Number immunised	6	109	118	137	103	769	888	2135
Estimated mid-year child population, 1947.	Children under five 1339					Children 5 - 14 2333		3672

	0-4 years.	5-14 years.
Percentage of child population who have completed a full course of immunisation	35 p.c.	71 p.c.

There was an increase of two in the total number of cases of scarlet fever notified, the notification rate being 2.05 per 1,000 of the population compared with a rate of 1.95 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 1.37 per 1,000 population. There was an increase in the number of cases of measles and whooping cough. The rate for measles was 4.76 per 1,000 of the population compared with 9.41 for England and Wales, and for whooping cough 2.53 per 1,000 of the population compared with 2.22 for England and Wales.

**INFANTILE PARALYSIS.** During the severe epidemic which occurred throughout the country in the middle and late summer and continuing into the autumn and winter months, eight cases of the disease were notified in this district. Three were young soldiers stationed in the military training camps situated near the town of Barnard Castle, and one of these unfortunately died after removal to Catterick Military Hospital. Of the five civilian cases two occurred in the Evenwood area, one in Cockfield, one in the West Auckland (Bildershaw) area, and one at an isolated farm near Eggleston.

**Summary of cases of Infantile Paralysis occurring in the District during 1947.**

Civilian.	Number of Cases.					Total
	Severe or moderately severe.			Mild.		
Anterior Polioencephalitis	...	...	nil		2	2
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	2		1	3
Non-Civilian.						
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	1		2	3

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year.**

			Admitted to Hospital.	Diagnosis Not confirmed.	Total Cases
Scarlet Fever	...	35	21	1	34
Diphtheria	...	2	1	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2	1	—	2
Erysipelas	...	2	—	—	2
Pneumonia	...	10	1	—	10
Ophthalmia	...	1	—	—	1
Ac. Polioencephalitis	...	2	2	—	2
Ac. Poliomyelitis	...	3	3	—	3
Enteric Fever	...	1	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	3	3	3	—
Measles	...	79	—	—	79
Whooping Cough	...	42	—	—	42
Non-Civilian.					
Scarlet Fever	...	9	7	—	9
Pneumonia	...	1	1	—	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis	...	3	3	—	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	3	3	—	3
Dysentery	...	1	1	—	1
Measles	...	1	?	—	1

## Analysis of the Total Cases (confirmed) in age groups.

	Under 1 Year	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Age un- known
Scarlet Fever ...	0	2	4	16	10	2	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Ac.P. Pneumonia	0	1	0	1	5	1	2	0	0
Ac. Polioen- cephalitis	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Measles ...	0	17	20	41	1	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	5	11	8	17	1	0	0	0	0

## TUBERCULOSIS.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, as no person engaged in the milk trade was notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

## New Cases (Form A) and Mortality during 1946.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	1	4	0	0	1	2	1	0
25	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
35	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
45	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
65 and upwards	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Age unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	10	5	1	1	9	3	1	1





